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Selection No. 3. WAR OF 1812, from the Papers of the late ELISHA WHITTLESEY.

We now present our third selection from the papers of the late Elisha Whittlesey relating to the war of 1812, on this frontier.

ELIJAH WADSWORTH TO JOHN WALWORTH.

CANFIELD, June 10, 1812.

DEAR SIR: There are rumors afloat in this quarter, which I deem not altogether groundless, that the citizens to the westward are not perfectly secure from the Indian depredations, particularly at this time, and that threats have been made to rescue the Indian in confinement. Should there be any probability of a rescue, you will deliver without delay, if you please, the enclosed order to Major Jones, and I shall order two or more companies, if you should deem it expedient, to act in concert with Major Jones' battalion. I should place much reliance on your opinion and those with whom you shall confer on the subject. Should the men be raised I should also crave your assistance in procuring provisions. Maj. Whittlesey will attend if the men should be embodied on the fifteenth, and probably I shall attend at that time myself. Please insert Maj. Jones's christian name previous to delivering the orders. Your obed't servant,

ELIJAH WADSWORTH.

John Walworth, Esq.

ELIJAH WADSWORTH TO MAJOR SAMUEL JONES.

CLEVELAND, June, 1812.

SIR:—You will, without delay, order the battalion under your command to be embodied at the City of Cleveland on the 15th day of this June, armed and equipped agreeable to the laws of the State. You will see that your men are each provided with half a pound of powder and two pounds of lead run into balls, suited to the calibre of their rifles, if armed with rifle, or if armed with musket, that they be each provided with forty-eight cartridges and forty-eight balls. In execution of this order I depend upon your vigilance and activity. Your men will also be provided with carts.

ELIJAH WADSWORTH,
Major General 4th Division.

SIMON PERKINS TO MAJ. GEN. WADSWORTH.

WARREN, June 21st, 1812.

SIR: Yours of this instant is received. The rank roll which you require shall be immediately made out and forwarded as soon as it can be procured. The returns as you ordered for the draft are not yet prepared. Maj. Cotgreave, who is the bearer of this, will be so good as to inform you the cause of the delay, but as soon as it is in my power it shall be completed and forwarded.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

SIMON PERKINS.

Judge Tod of Youngstown, was commissioned a Major of the Nineteenth regiment of United States Infantry (Colonel John Miller), July 6, 1812. He performed a gallant and important part in the sortie from Fort Meigs, in May, 1813, in which the British were driven from their guns in a position across the ravine, near the fort, on the south-east. On the 1st of January, 1815, he was promoted to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Seventeenth United States Infantry. The Nineteenth regiment was raised in Ohio. After the evacuation of Malden by the British, on the approach of General Harrison in September, 1813, Major Tod was left in command of that post. He was the father of Governor David Tod, late of Briar Hill, and a very prominent character in North-eastern Ohio during the first thirty years of the present century. Before the war he held the position of Justice of the Supreme Court.

MAJOR TOD TO ELISHA WHITTLESEY.

[Extracts.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMP LOWER
SENECA, August 19th, 1813,

ELISHA WHITTLESEY, Esq., Canfield, Ohio.
"Generals Harrison, Cass and McArthur, their suits &c., have left this morning for the mouth of Sandusky Bay, off which lies Commodore Perry with his Erie fleet. We expect much from him, and I am deceived if the country may not expect success to follow Gen. Harrison's movements. We have about one thousand effective men here, two thousand militia (Ohio), under the command of Gov. Meigs

in person, at Upper Sandusky, ready to advance at the word. I am for the present attached to the 27 Reg't, U. S. Inf. How long I shall continue to fill my present station I know not. Sitting on courts martial and superintending the drill service, constitute my essential duty.

GEORGE TOD.

TRUMP OF FAME PRINT,
WARREN, OHIO, Sept. 16, 1812.

"A detachment under the command of Major Austin, of this town, was sent a few days since on to the Peninsula between Lake Erie and Sandusky Bay, for the purpose of procuring refreshment for the troops under the command of Gen. Perkins. They passed over to Cunningham's Island, where they discovered a British schooner on shore, and abandoned by her crew; they set fire to her. On their return they discovered the dead body of Mathew Guy of this neighborhood. Returning from that place one of their own number was shot through the head and fell dead. This is the first blood shed since the declaration of war at Sandusky Bay.

We are told the President has ordered on to Gen. Wadsworth 1500 muskets."

BRIG.-GEN. REASIN BEALL TO MAJ.-GEN. WADSWORTH.

CAMP NEAR WOOSTER, OHIO, Sept. 13, 1812.

DEAR GENERAL:—Enclosed is the strength of the detachment under my command. I do not see that it will be in my power to erect block-houses on the route contemplated, owing to the want of forage and provision. I believe a sufficient quantity could be had, providing we had money. The day before yesterday the Indians killed and scalped four persons on the Black Fork of Mohican, about twenty-five miles west of this, and eight miles east of Mansfield. At Mansfield there are upwards of two hundred men stationed, from the counties of Muskingum and Knox. I have last night and to-day detached three companies to range north-west of the place about twenty miles, and in case they should discover any sign of the enemy making toward the settlements to pursue and destroy them. I shall attend to the detaching the number required from my brigade, but I can assure you that I almost despair of getting them to camp. The unparalleled number of deserters are truly astonishing to me. I feel quite weak in consequence of my late spell of sickness, and at times feel strong symptoms of relapse. I do not believe that I shall be able long to perform the duties required in camp, much less the fatigues of a campaign. I am very desirous to return home in order to regain my health. I find it impracticable to keep up a line of communication with Gen. Perkins, owing (as I before observed) to the want of provisions and forage, which prevents my moving farther west.

I hope the enclosed returns will be satisfactory, my forwarding the strength of the detachment and return of camp equipage, etc., shows there is a deficiency, and it will remain with the government to make it up. I know not what articles the government intend furnishing. I, however, have stated such as I know will be wanted. In case I should continue in my present state of health, I believe I shall be under the necessity of returning home, which I hope will meet with your approbation. Pray sir, signify your approbation relative thereto by next opportunity.

Sincerely, General, I am your friend.

REASIN BEALL.

HON. WM. EUSTIS TO GEN. WADSWORTH.
WAR DEPARTMENT, Oct. 3, 1812.

SIR:—Your letter of Sept. 27th is received. Mr. Huntington is appointed paymaster to the troops in your vicinity. Major Stoddard will continue to forward supplies. The Pennsylvania detachment is assembling at Pittsburgh, and it is hoped the judicious arrangements of General Harrison will soon quiet the Indians on the frontier, and at least restore our possessions on the Upper Lakes. A train of artillery will immediately leave Pittsburgh, subject to the order of General Harrison, and every exertion is making for the comfort and convenience of the troops on the frontier.

Very respectfully, sir,
Your obt servant, W. EUSTIS.

HON. WM. EUSTIS TO MAJ. GEN. WADSWORTH.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Oct. 10th, 1812.

SIR: You will organize the detachment requested by my letter of Sept. 5th, put them under the command of a Brigade General and report them to Gen. Harrison for such disposition as he may think proper. Blankets, stockings, shoes and other clothing, with medicines and hospital stores are on the way, and will be distributed by General Harrison according to the wants of the army. Very Respectfully, Sir, Your Obedient Servant.

W. EUSTIS.

GENERAL WADSWORTH TO SECRETARY OF WAR.

HEADQUARTERS, HURON,
Oct. 24th, 1812.

HON. WM. EUSTIS, Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

SIR: Your letter of the 10th instant was received by express last evening. I shall, without a moment's delay, comply with the requisition therein contained. I feel it a duty incumbent on me to make you acquainted in some measure with the situation of my detachment. The extent of line which required guards from my detachment exceeded 150 miles. At this place between four and five hundred men have been placed. Of those a very considerable part, by sickness and death, have

been discharged and new drafts ordered. You may be acquainted with the extent of my division—more than 110 miles square. Almost the whole of this extent is uninhabited. My detachment takes from the draft of 100,000 ordered by the President.

After my detachment is completed, I must ask the question how and in what manner are the heavy bills accrued in this business to be defrayed? I have spared no pains to effect the object, and involved myself and may be my ruin, should the Government neglect me. I have, and still continue to place, the greatest confidence in the present Administration; have had the strongest assurance verbally from Mr. Huntington for my support.

Your obt. servant,

ELIJAH WADSWORTH.
Maj. Gen. 4th Division Ohio Militia.

GEN. WADSWORTH TO WM. EUSTIS.

HEADQUARTERS,
HURON, Nov. 20th, 1812.

SIR: I have, in obedience to your directions of Sept. 5th, called out fifteen hundred men from my Division, most of them have now been in the service on the frontier nearly three months, one Regiment is organized and marched to the Lower Sandusky, the residue are in this camp; they also would be at Sandusky if we had any provisions for them, but the contractor after some time dealing out damaged flour, is now entirely out of corn. When to this is added that since the troops were first called out they have received no pay I trust you will appreciate the difficulty of keeping them together, and the delay (incident to such a situation of things) in completing the arrangements you have directed. I trust, however, that within a week I shall be able to cause the residue of the troops from my division to join their brethren at Sandusky, and give up the command of them to General Harrison.

Very respectfully,

Sir, I am your obedient,

ELIJAH WADSWORTH.

GENERAL WADSWORTH TO SEC. OF WAR.
HURON, Nov. 28th, 1812.

SIR:—I have organized three Regiments from the Division under my command, comprising the number of men you required me to order to take the field, and have placed them under the command of Brig. Gen. Simon Perkins, agreeable, to instructions from Gen. Harrison. One Regiment has advanced to the Sandusky Bay, where they occupy the Fort. Parties are detached daily, to gather corn and other Forage, and every means are made use of to prepare for a continuous campaign. I trust Sir that the men will signalize themselves when they engage with the enemy. I have drawn three several Bills of Exchange on you to defray

a part of the expenses incurred in organizing this detachment and keeping it in the field. The draft that I mentioned in my letter of Nov. 8th was not forwarded by Lieut. Church from Pittsburg, owing to his having been informed by Major Stoddard that the subsistence of the provisions from Detroit was improperly embraced in his estimate on which my draft was predicated. It would accommodate the public creditors if some person in the Western Country should be authorized to purchase bills on the War Office.

GEN. WADSWORTH TO WM. EUSTIS, ESQ.,
SECRETARY OF WAR.

CANFIELD, Dec. 20th, 1812.

SIR: Having on the 29th ult. completed the force ordered by you from my division by your letter of Sept. 5th, and placed them under the immediate command of General Harrison, reporting to him the whole force, it seemed that my service was no longer necessary or required by Government, and accordingly on the 30th I left the head quarters of the right wing of the Northwestern army at Huron and returned home.

Various causes combined, which were altogether beyond my control, has in some measure lengthened the time in completing the organization of the detachment. However, no time has been lost. The extensive new settlements have been saved from savage barbarity, and the detachment equally ready to go forward with the main army. Doubtless you are sensible of the great disadvantages I have labored under to equip, support, and march into the field such a detachment of men without money. Although the credit of the United States may be good, there are a class of citizens that will not lend any assistance or support to the war. Of course it is more difficult to procure supplies for a military force, and in the present case has fallen heavy on the real friends of the Government. You will see I am placed in a critical situation. By my orders great expenditures have accrued. I am daily called on for payment and several suits have been actually commenced, although I do not conceive myself personally holden, yet it will make extra expense and, Sir, I do conceive it necessary as well for the honor of the Government as the good of the creditors, that some effectual measures be immediately adopted to save expense, would it not be advisable to appoint some person within the limits of my Division to audit and pay off those demands?

I can assure you, Sir, that many of the creditors are much embarrassed for want of their just dues.

Yours very respectfully,

ELIJAH WADSWORTH.